

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of this application.

Office Action Summary

Claims 1, 10, and 28 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,138,614 of Baumgartner et al. ("Baumgartner").

Claim 19 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,093,824 of Coan et al. ("Coan") and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,138,614 of Baumgartner et al. ("Baumgartner").

Claims 2-9, 11-18, 20-27 and 29-36 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, set forth in this Office Action and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Status of Claims

Claims 1-36 are pending in the application. No claims have been amended. No claims have been added. No new matter has been added. No claims have been canceled.

Claims 2-9, 11-18, 20-27 and 29-36 are indicated as allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, set forth in this Office Action and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Therefore, the following remarks are directed to the rejected claims.

Claim Rejections

Claims 1, 10, and 28 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Baumgartner. Applicant respectfully disagrees with the Office Action's characterization of Baumgartner and submits that claim 1 is patentable over Baumgartner. Claim 1 recites:

A method, comprising:

receiving a logical connection number (LCN) associated with a first logical connection from a connection command;
using the LCN as a first index to a location in a first memory area **to retrieve a second index to a location in a second memory area**; and
using the second index to access the first logical connection from the location in the second memory area.

(emphasis added)

The Office Action states:

Referring to claim 1, Baumgartner teaches a method comprising: receiving a logical connection number (LCN) associated with a first logical connection from a connection command [see column 5 - lines 15-33, 'incoming LCN']; **using the LCN as a first index to a location in a first memory area to retrieve a second index to a location in a second memory area [see column 5 - lines 15-33, 'outgoing LCN']**; and using the second index to access the first logical connection from the location in the second memory area [see column 5 - lines 15-33].

(Office Action, 3/11/04, p. 1)(emphasis added).

At the above cited to passages by the Office Action, Baumgartner discloses:

A multicast packet switch will be represented as w-MPS (or s-MPS) if its switch fabric has the weak sequencing (or strong sequencing) property.

In general, different links within a multicast connection may use different LCNs. Thus, each switch interface maintains a packet translation table (PTT) and a multicast control table (MCT) to store routing information about those multicast connections. **Each entry of a packet translation table, indexed by an incoming LCN, contains a multicast connection number (MCN) and a switch header.** On the incoming link, the MCN field stores the MCN assigned to a multicast connection during connection setup. The switch header identifies a set of outgoing links involved in a multicast connection, which is used for packet duplication and routing through a switch fabric. **Each entry of the multicast control table, indexed by a MCN, contains the LCN chosen for the outgoing link within a multicast connection.**

(Baumgartner, col. 5. lines 15-33)(emphasis added).

It appears that the Office Action is reading the “second index to a location in a second memory area” language of claim 1 on the MCN entry of the multicast control table of Baumgartner. It is respectfully submitted that such a reading is inapposite. The MCN entry of the multicast control table contains the LCN chosen for the outgoing link.

It is respectfully submitted that this LCN is not an index to a location in a second memory area of the packet translation table.

In contrast, claim 1 includes the limitations of “using the LCN as a first index to a location in a first memory area **to retrieve a second index to a location in a second memory area.**” Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that claim 1 is patentable over Baumgartner.

For reasons similar to those given above with respect to claim 1, it is submitted that claims 10 and 28 are also patentable over Baumgartner.

Claim 19 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Coan and further in view of Baumgartner. Applicant respectfully disagrees with the Office Action’s characterization of the references and submits that claim 1 is patentable over the cited references.

The Office Action states:

Referring to Claim 19, Coan teaches a system comprising: a standby card to receive a connection command from an active card, the connection command associated with a logical connection number (LCN) of a first logical connection, the standby card processing the connection command on the standby card [see Coan column 7 - lines 60-67; column 8 - lines 1-5, 49-58], **however fails to explicitly set forth the limitation of said processing comprises: using the LCN as a first index to a location in a first memory area to retrieve a second index to a location in a second memory area;** and rising the second index to access the first logical connection from the location in the second memory area. **Baumgartner teaches** of using the LCN as a first index to a location in a first memory area to retrieve a second index to a location in a second memory area [see Baumgartner column 5 - lines 15-33, 'incoming LCN', 'outgoing LCN']; and **using the second index to access the first logical connection from the location in the second memory area** [see Baumgartner column 5 - lines 15-33]. . .

(Office Action, 3/11/04, pp. 4-5)(emphasis added).

Applicant respectfully disagrees with the Office Action's characterization of the references. In particular, Baumgartner teaches that the MCN entry of the multicast control table contains the LCN chosen for the outgoing link. It is respectfully submitted that this LCN is not an index to a location in a second memory area of the packet translation table. (Baumgartner, col. 5. lines 15-33). As such, Baumgartner, neither alone nor in combination with Coan, teaches or suggests "using the LCN as a first index to a location in a first memory area to retrieve a second index to a location in a second memory area" as recited in claim 19. Therefore, it is submitted that claim 19 is patentable over the cited references.

In conclusion, applicant respectfully submits that in view of the arguments set forth herein, the applicable rejections have been overcome.

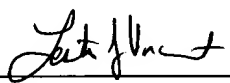
If the Examiner believes a telephone interview would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact Daniel Ovanezian at (408) 720-8300.

If there are any additional charges, please charge our Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP

Dated: July 8, 2004



Lester J. Vincent
Registration No. 31,460

12400 Wilshire Boulevard
Seventh Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90025-1026
(408) 720-8300